I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: December 24, 2008 Signature:

(Frederick R. Handren)

Docket No.: 5814-0101PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hideo HASHIMOTO

Application No.: 10/591,171

Confirmation No.: 6043

Filed: August 30, 2006

Art Unit: 1792

For: WASHING METHOD

Examiner: S. A. Waldbaum

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2008, Applicant submits herewith the following for entry in the above-identified U.S. patent application:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 11 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.